



February 28, 2010
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Dani, Erik, Erasmo
and Ronualdo



Alejandro, Nanci, Maria, and Willi



Mauricio, Griselda, Bobbi, Nanci,
Sandara, and Irene

Everybody's "suiting up" for School Year 2010! Bobbi Banks, one of our donors for the School Program, got personally involved, and went along to help Nanci "Suit 'em Up!"

RECENT NEWS

There's a lot going on, so this month we're once again sending out the newsletter in two parts. Part 1 is dedicated to the School Program and "suiting up" for this school year. Part 2 has a LOT of other news inside!

SCHOOL YEAR 2010 IS OFF AND RUNNING!

We've been really busy getting the School Program started off this year. We began a little late, and are just about done with the "suiting up" part. Now, we wait until the book buying needs come in. So far this year, we've been blessed to be able to serve 47 children, with the possibility of more on the way. We'll keep you posted!

WHO ARE THE REAL ANGELS?

Nanci Stevens

We here at 'The Bridge' wish to give a hearty thank you to those of you on board our school program. We're about halfway through, and enjoying every minute of it. Startin' to feel as though my roller coaster is speeding up, but the ride is a hoot. I get a real thrill personally being able to suit up these kids, and pat them on the back as we send them off to school.

Whether big or small, your donations and prayers become the rocks and mortar with which we build our bridges and form our kinships. I cannot let this school year go by without highlighting a handful of you. If I had my way, the highlighter would run out of ink by giving thanks ad nauseum until you all passed out.

Please let me introduce you to some wonderful folks.

Christine Essex with the **Pan American Educational Foundation** (a public Texas foundation) and **Neal Carson** with the **Carson Foundation** (a private Texas foundation) **Christine** and **Neal** live in Costa Rica, and have been dedicated to the education of children for many years. They've been "Johnny-on-the-spot" in the times of great need. We are very grateful for that!

Let's hear it for **Iswari**. That gal is a marvel. She and her buddies once again put a spring in the steps of quite a few deserving kids this year. Our hearts swell with pride just being able to bask in the glow of people like Iswari. She owns Casa Amma, nestled beneath palm trees along the Caribbean shore near here, does a mean Satsang, and has some really powerfully spiritual friends. Je ma. Spends her life expressing her good. Look for her on <http://www.amma.org/humanitarian->

activities/social/mothers-kitchen/costa-rica.html, and see for yourself the ways and the people with which God brings a light unto the world. Thank you Iswari, thank you Amma

Nanci Hartland (named appropriately and even spelled like mine) has gladdened our hearts for many years. She's no stranger to making BIG differences in the lives of many desperate people from Africa to Costa Rica and I suspect everywhere else she travels. She and her dream child, **Lifetracks** (and please look her up on www.lifetracks.org) are also making BIG differences in the lives of many beautiful children at 'The Bridge' by giving them the opportunity for a really great future. Nanci & her fabulous entourage including Marty Bethke and Jackie Hayes, who showed up in person to shower us all with their gifts of time, talent and treasure. I hope they're having as great a time as we are. And please ask Nanci Hartland about her new book, '**True Confessions of a reluctant Giraffe: a Soul Safari**'. [Nice Book!](#)

And then there's '**Surf For Life**', a really cool bunch of 'kids' dedicated to making life a little better for a lot of people. This particular young group of +-20 (almost exclusively girls), with Alex and Jonathon at the helm, (lucky guys) are carrying out the awesome feat of repairing a real bridge 70 yards long over a really big river critical to the indigenous in the interior. They are also repairing a basketball court in Puerto Viejo, giving the youth of the town a better place to play. You go, girls! And thanks especially to Jeannette of that group for starting the ball rolling to outfit more kids for school. She fired up somebody who fired up somebody, who fired up somebody else and raised the cash to send a few more kids to school. Their bridge program begins right about now and we are soooooo looking forward to personally meeting these people who are indeed somebody! We're building bridges all around. Whoooooooooooooeeeeeeee!!!!!!!

And a really great thanks to **Bobbi Banks**. From out of the frigid icy land of Nova Scotia on her sleigh with family, and, you'll never believe it, but yes, Dorothy, there are two of them, her twin sister **Lea**. Bobbi got to get close with many of the Bridge kids she personally suited up for school. How great it is to be alive and share this experience with ones so lovely as Bobbi and her family. Bobbi makes it a point of spending her vacations using her amazing medical skills in exotic lands to make lives more comfortable for the most underprivileged people around the world. This year she is blessing our shores. She says we're stuck with her. Oh Darn!

Liv Dagney, is the mother of one of our volunteers from Norway. From past years, we learned that she's brilliant with needle and thread, and we've even been blessed with some of her amazing crafts. She held some very special Christmas sales this year, and earned some cash and made a lovely donation to The Bridge - just in time to help kick off the "suiting up" for this school year! Thank you, Liv!

Then there are the rest of you whose contributions arrived at exactly the right time to help get this year started - **Darlene Jones, Laurence Smith, Lynsey Smith, Gil Phalen, Peter MacGillivray, Audrey Darrow** – Thank you all!

If we forgot you, please forgive.

We are eternally grateful to **All Of You** who share of your time, talents, treasure, prayers, and priceless presence. In their names, I give thanks for the powerful opportunity you are all giving to these kids and their families. We acknowledge there are other places in the world as worthy and as in need. Thank you for sharing your resources with The Bridge and we know that divine love and the hands of God are in every pocket of this amazing world. Keep it up.

Lets continue to make this “**A World That Works For Everybody**”.

DONATING TIME AND EFFORT

We're seeing people who very obviously want to get out and DO something to help The Bridge. They get into their cars and go shopping for the items on the "Critical Needs" page on our website. We knew it was expensive to ship items here from the USA, but we didn't know how expensive it could get – until Sonia Liskoski mailed us a box.



Nanci looks over the box of goodies sent by Sonia

What a great batch of supplies, including items we can't get down here! The cost of mailing the package was \$120.25! All I can say to Sonia for being willing to do that is "Wow!! Thank You!".

And I know that I need to explore some ways to get things sent down here and clue you in on those.

MEET "IGGY"

Walking around outside a few days ago, I heard a loud "Thump!" from the area of our driveway gate. Here's what I found as I walked to check...



I named him "Iggy" – he fell out of one of the trees in our yard. He's a four-foot long iguana.



Here's a closer look. He looks vaguely prehistoric, as we see him walking slowly out of the yard. Later, some of the Bribri noticed there was blood on the rocks he passed over, raising doubts about his ability to survive. We wish him the best!

It was quite an experience, meeting this “little” guy face to face. When I poked him with a stick to see if he was able to move, he hauled off and swatted the stick with that very powerful tail of his. I'd sure hate to have him mad at me.

YOU CAN HELP US!

There are several ways you can help.

- **Send this email to people you know** who might also enjoy it.
- **Post a message about us on relevant web sites or discussion boards.**
- **Look at our list of critically needed supplies** – [click on this link to get to the “What Can I Bring?” page on our website.](#)

DONOR NOTES

We are blessed with 13 people who are in the “Intrepid Bridger’s Club” – they have committed to a monthly pledge amount. You can see how the Pledge Program and the “100 Tens” effort are going by [clicking on this link to visit the website.](#)

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

**Thank You for the continuing support we have been getting.
You all are allowing us to continue to serve!**

NOW's a GREAT time to contribute.

Make a **Monthly Pledge** by [clicking here.](#)

Make an **Immediate Donation** by [clicking here,](#)
and donate online using PayPal, or mail a check.

Do it NOW! You'll be glad you did!

* * * * *

Thank you for your support!

Well,

...djmiache

Enjoy!

Barry & Nancy

IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE SEEING THE PICTURES

...go to www.elpuente-thebridge.org/weekly and download the file with the date of this issue.

Go to The **Bridge Blog** -"Angels With Their Skins On" by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Go to The **Bridge Website** by [CLICKING HERE](#)

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See some **Video clips** showing activities at The Bridge by [CLICKING HERE](#)

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